

No. 92-6
Tel. 301/504-22240

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
(Thursday, January 9, 1992)

NRC PROPOSES CHANGES IN LICENSING FEES

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is proposing two changes to its fee regulations to shorten billing intervals for some license fees under Part 170 and reduce the amount of annual fees assessed to some small entities under Part 171. The change to Part 170 would result in improved NRC financial management. The change to Part 171 would reduce the impact of future annual fees on certain small materials licensees.

The proposed revision to Part 170 of the Commission's regulations -- fees for NRC providing individual services -- would shorten the billing to quarterly intervals for reactor and fuel cycle facility licensees that are currently billed every six months. This would provide more timely cost information for licensees, improve NRC's financial management, and result in all Part 170 fees being billed by NRC at least quarterly.

The proposed revision to Part 171 -- annual fees to recover the balance of NRC's generic and regulatory costs not covered under Part 170 -- would establish a lower tier small entity annual fee of \$400 for small businesses and non-profit organizations with annual gross receipts of less than \$250,000 and small governmental jurisdictions with a population of less than 20,000. Maximum annual fees for all other small entities would continue to be \$1,800.

Final results from the proposed changes will be incorporated into the development of the FY 1992 annual fees which will be published in the spring of 1992.

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed amendments to Parts 170 and 171 of the Commission's regulations by February 10, 1992. Comments should be addressed to the Secretary of the Commission, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Washington, DC 20555, Attention, Docketing and Service Branch.

#